

Application No 09/960,260
Amendment dated JUNE 14, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated March 14, 2006

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (Original) An intravascular device suitable for packaging in a package lumen defined by a package lumen wall, the intravascular device comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal portion; and

a hub assembly connected to the proximal portion of the elongate shaft, the hub assembly including an interference fit member (IFM) which is configured to form an interference fit with the package lumen wall when the intravascular device is disposed in the package lumen.

2. (Original) An intravascular device as in claim 1, wherein the IFM is fully disposed in the package lumen.

3. (Original) An intravascular device as in claim 1, wherein the interference fit establishes sufficient friction to resist gravitational and handling forces which may otherwise cause the intravascular device to fall out of the package lumen.

4. (Original) An intravascular device as in claim 3, wherein the friction created by the interference fit is sufficiently small to permit easy removal of the intravascular device from the package lumen.

5. (Currently amended) An intravascular device suitable for packaging in a package lumen defined by a package lumen wall, as in claim 4, wherein the package lumen wall comprises a carrier tube wall, the intravascular device further defined by:

~~, and wherein~~ the interference fit member (IFM) is being configured to form an interference fit with the carrier tube wall.

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6. (Currently amended) An intravascular device as in claim 1, ~~5, wherein the carrier tube wall has an inside surface, and~~ wherein the IFM is configured to form ~~forms~~ an interference fit with the an inside surface of the package lumen wall ~~carrier tube wall~~.

7. (Currently amended) An intravascular device as in claim 1, ~~6, wherein the carrier tube wall has an inside diameter, and~~ wherein the IFM has an outside diameter greater than the an inside diameter of the package lumen wall ~~carrier tube wall~~.

8. (Currently amended) An intravascular device as in claim 1, ~~6, wherein the carrier tube wall has an inside cross-sectional dimension, and~~ wherein the IFM has an outside cross-sectional dimension greater than the an inside cross-sectional dimension of the package lumen wall ~~carrier tube wall~~.

9. (Withdrawn) An intravascular device as in claim 5, wherein the carrier tube wall has an outside surface, and wherein the IFM forms an interference fit with the outside surface of the carrier tube wall.

10. (Withdrawn) An intravascular device as in claim 9, wherein the carrier tube wall has an outside diameter, and wherein the IFM has an inside diameter less than the outside diameter of the carrier tube wall.

11. (Withdrawn) An intravascular device as in claim 9, wherein the carrier tube wall has an outside cross-sectional dimension, and wherein the IFM has an inside cross-sectional dimension less than the outside cross-sectional dimension of the carrier tube wall.

12. (Original) An intravascular device as in claim 4, wherein the hub assembly includes a hub and a strain relief, and wherein the IFM is carried by the hub.

13. (Withdrawn) An intravascular device as in claim 4, wherein the hub assembly includes a hub and a strain relief, and wherein the IFM is carried by the strain relief.

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14. (Original) An intravascular device as in claim 4, wherein the hub assembly includes a hub and a strain relief, and wherein the hub and the strain relief are integrally formed.

15. (Original) An intravascular device as in claim 4, wherein the hub assembly includes a hub and a strain relief, and wherein the hub and the strain relief are connected.

16. (Withdrawn) An intravascular device as in claim 15, wherein the connection between the hub and the strain relief comprises a bond.

17. (Withdrawn) An intravascular device as in claim 15, wherein the connection between the hub and the strain relief comprises a mechanical lock.

18. (Currently amended) An intravascular device suitable for packaging in a package lumen defined by a package lumen wall, the intravascular device comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal portion; and

a hub assembly connected to the proximal portion of the elongate shaft, the hub assembly including an interference fit member (IFM) which is configured to form an interference fit with the package lumen wall when the intravascular device is disposed in the package lumen;

wherein the interference fit establishes sufficient friction to resist gravitational and handling forces which may otherwise cause the intravascular device to fall out of the package lumen;

wherein the friction created by the interference fit is sufficiently small to permit easy removal of the intravascular device from the package lumen; and

An intravascular device as in claim 4, wherein the IFM comprises one or more rings.

19. (Withdrawn) An intravascular device as in claim 4, wherein the IFM comprises one or more protrusions.

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20. (Withdrawn) An intravascular device as in claim 4, wherein the IFM comprises a plurality of protrusions distributed about a circumference.

21. (Original) A hub assembly for an intravascular device suitable for packaging in a carrier tube, the hub assembly comprising an interference fit member (IFM) which is configured to form an interference fit with the carrier tube.

22. (Original) An intravascular device suitable for packaging in a package lumen defined by a package wall, the intravascular device comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal portion; and

a hub assembly connected to the proximal portion of the elongate shaft, the hub assembly including a means for forming an interference fit with the package wall when the intravascular device is disposed in the package lumen.

23. (Original) A packaged intravascular device, comprising:

a package having a package lumen defined by a package wall; and

an intravascular device disposed in the package lumen, the intravascular device comprising an elongate shaft having a proximal portion, a hub assembly connected to the proximal portion of the elongate shaft, the hub assembly including a means for forming an interference fit with the package wall.

24. (Original) An intravascular device suitable for packaging in a package lumen defined by a package lumen wall, the intravascular device comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal portion; and

an interference fit member (IFM) connected to the proximal portion of the elongate shaft, wherein the IFM is configured to form an interference fit with the package lumen wall when the intravascular device is disposed in the package lumen.

25. (Previously presented) An intravascular device as in claim 18, wherein the one or more rings has a middle portion and a distal end portion and a proximal end portion.

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26. (Previously presented) An intravascular device as in claim 25, wherein the middle portion of the ring has a larger diameter than the end portions.

27. (Previously presented) An intravascular device as in claim 25, wherein the end portions taper from the diameter of the middle portion to a smaller diameter than the middle portion.

28. (Previously presented) An intravascular device as in claim 18, wherein the one or more rings has a middle portion and a proximal tapered portion.

29. (Previously presented) An intravascular device as in claim 1, wherein an inner diameter of the wall is smaller than the outer diameter of the IFM such that the IFM deforms the wall when the IFM is in an interference fit with the wall.

30. (Currently amended) An intravascular device suitable for packaging in a package lumen defined by a package lumen wall, the intravascular device comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal portion; and

a hub assembly connected to the proximal portion of the elongate shaft, the hub assembly including an interference fit member (IFM) which is configured to form an interference fit with the package lumen wall when the intravascular device is disposed in the package lumen;

wherein an inner diameter of the wall is smaller than the outer diameter of the IFM such that the IFM deforms the wall when the IFM is in an interference fit with the wall; and

An intravascular device as in claim 29, wherein the IFM causes the wall to bulge outwardly when the IFM is disposed within the wall.

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31. (Currently amended) An intravascular device suitable for packaging in a package lumen defined by a package lumen wall, the intravascular device comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal portion; and

a hub assembly connected to the proximal portion of the elongate shaft, the hub assembly including an interference fit member (IFM) which is configured to form an interference fit with the package lumen wall when the intravascular device is disposed in the package lumen;

wherein the interference fit establishes sufficient friction to resist gravitational and handling forces which may otherwise cause the intravascular device to fall out of the package lumen;

wherein the friction created by the interference fit is sufficiently small to permit easy removal of the intravascular device from the package lumen;

wherein the hub assembly includes a hub and a strain relief, and wherein the IFM is carried by the hub; and

An intravascular device as in claim 12, wherein the IFM is disposed on a distal end of the hub, proximal the strain relief.